



**BOROUGH OF BEVERLEY**

---

**ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

**FOR THE YEAR 1950**

**By WM. FERGUSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.**

*including*

**Annual Report of the Chief Sanitary  
Inspector,**

**T. B. HOOD, M.S.I.A.**

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## **BOROUGH OF BEVERLEY.**

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### **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE. 1950.**

#### **Chairman.**

Alderman J. P. TICHIAS

#### **Vice-Chairman :**

Councillor G. SCRUTON.

#### **Members :**

The Mayor (Alderman D. R. SIMSON)

Alderman H. W. KIRBY

Councillor H. P. FLYNN

Councillor C. H. BURDEN

Councillor H. R. GODBOLD

Councillor A. B. CARE

Councillor W. HUTCHINSON

Councillor P. D. DUNN

Councillor C. P. SYKES

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### **OFFICIALS OF THE CORPORATION**

#### **Town Clerk :**

E. BAILEY

#### **Medical Officer of Health :**

W. FERGUSON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

#### **Borough Treasurer :**

J. H. SAVIDGE, A.I.M.T.A.

#### **Borough Engineer :**

H. TOMKYS, M.INST. M. & CY. E., P.A.S.I.

#### **Chief Sanitary Inspector :**

T. B. HOOD, M.S.I.A.

#### **Additional Sanitary Inspector :**

H. TRINICK, M.S.I.A.

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1950.

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*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of  
Beverley.*

Mr. Mayor, Mrs. Dunn, and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report upon the Health Services of the Borough of Beverley for 1950.

In addition to the usual statistical tables dealing with births, deaths and infectious diseases, I have also included certain information about the Health Services administered by the County Council as the Local Health Authority. Although these services are not the direct responsibility of the Borough Council, I feel that members should be given some details of the services available within the Borough as the local councillors are in close contact with the people of the area which they serve, and are, therefore, entitled to the fullest information with regard to all health matters.

Since the beginning of 1950, the health department has been receiving weekly returns from the Ministry of National Insurance showing the number of sickness claims for the Beverley area, and although the area covered by this office does not correspond to the Borough boundary, but takes in a proportion of the Rural District as well, the figures as illustrated on page 13, do give some idea of the seasonal sickness rate in the district. Unfortunately no statistics are available showing the individual causes for these claims. I feel that if Medical Officers of Health of districts were given more detailed information of the causes of sickness in their areas they could use this information to the advantage of the community as a whole.

Since 1948, when the National Health Service Act came into operation and the Health Services were divided into three more or less water-tight compartments, namely hospital, general practitioner, and preventive services, I consider that there has been a falling off in local interest in health matters, except by those few who are directly concerned with Hospital Management Committees, and although a certain amount of liaison between the three bodies does exist, I, in common with many others, feel that this is minimal.

Very large sums are spent annually on the curative side of medicine especially on hospital cases, but in my opinion the proportion of money spent on preventing illness is not adequate, and more research and enquiry into the cause of everyday illness in schools, factories, and offices, would pay very large financial dividends and produce a healthier school population, and a more efficient working adult population. Curative medicine gives quicker results and is more spectacular, preventive medicine gives slower results but is of more lasting value to the community as a whole.

A brief look at the statistics showing the incidence, and the death rate from diphtheria over the past 10 years will readily show the value of prevention, and the steady fall in deaths under one year for the past half century is in itself a tribute to the Infant Welfare Services which have been in the hands of the local authorities during this period.

I would urge all local representatives, whether members of sanitary or local health authorities to give their support wherever possible to any steps which are likely to prevent illness, and to make it their object to reduce and not increase the number of hospital beds required in their district.

The statistical tables for Beverley show corrected rates as follows :—

Birth Rate of 16.56

Death Rate of 10.14

Infant Mortality Rate of 25.58

These figures compare favourably with those of similar towns and with the country as a whole.

There are 73 privies and 283 pail closets in the town and although these in themselves may not be detrimental to health they are always a possible source of infection to those who are in the unfortunate position of having to use them. In my opinion every effort should be made to substantially reduce this number at an early date.

Due to the lack of public support, the "clean food" campaign has virtually ceased to function, however, the adoption by the Council of the Clean Food Regulations, 1949, should ensure adequate hygienic conditions in food producing premises.

It is necessary for the Health Department of any authority to make full use of the Public Health Laboratory Service in the area, and I would like to express my appreciation for the co-operation and help which the Health Department has received from Dr. Greening who is in charge of this laboratory at Hull.

Finally, I would like to express my appreciation, and place on record my thanks for the help and courtesy of the Chairman and members of the Health Committee, the Town Clerk, Sanitary Inspectors, and other Officials, during the past year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

WM. FERGUSON,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

July, 1951.



### STATISTICAL MEMORANDUM.

Borough .....	Borough of Beverley
Population (estimated mid 1950) .....	15,540
Number of inhabited houses (estimated) .....	4,450
Rateable Value .....	£83,548
Sum represented by a Penny Rate .....	£325
Total Births.....	255
Birth-rate.....	16.4
Total Deaths .....	169
Death-rate .....	10.9
Deaths of infants under one year of age .....	7
(Six legitimate, one illegitimate)	
Infantile Mortality .....	27.5 per 1,000 live births
Number of Illegitimate Births.....	14

### SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

There would appear to be some need for more recreational facilities for children in the more densely populated area of the town, as there are no playgrounds or playing fields for the younger children. The great majority of sports and football fields are attached to one or other of the larger firms of the district or belong to the Education Authority, the latter being purely for the use of pupils attending the school during school term. When one takes into consideration that the town is surrounded by large tracts of open grass land it does seem a pity that more open spaces are not available for young children to play on in the vicinity of their homes.

The care of old people as in most parts of the country often gives rise to difficult social problems. Although there are a number of Almshouses and Homes for old people within the Borough these are by no means sufficient to accommodate all the deserving cases, and the problem of old people living alone, becoming ill or too frail to look after themselves, and having no relatives capable of or willing to do so frequently arises. There is often a considerable delay in getting such cases into a suitable hospital or institution. It is difficult to decide whether to implement section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, which can force these old people to enter a suitable institution, as many of them prefer to remain in their own homes. There is no doubt that these problems will become greater as the years pass, due to the increased number of elderly people in the community, and that more suitable dwellings will be required where supervision and attention can be provided.

The housing problem is mentioned elsewhere in this report, and the number of overcrowded premises without doubt contributes to unsatisfactory social conditions. These conditions are continually being brought to the public's notice as contributing factors in unhappy family relationships.

### **VITAL STATISTICS.**

**Population.** The Registrar General has notified his estimation of the population at mid 1950 as 15,540, which is an increase of 170 over the figure for 1949.

**Births.** There were 255 live births registered in the Borough during 1950, of these 129 were males and 126 females. This number is 51 less than for 1949. There were 14 illegitimate births, 5 males and 9 females. The birth rate was 16.4, which is fall of 3.5 as compared with 1949.

**Still Births.** There were 7 still births during the year, 4 male and 3 female, all of them being legitimate, this is 1 more than the previous year.

**Deaths.** During the year there were 169 deaths, 91 males and 78 females. This is a decrease of 22 compared with the figure for 1949. The death rate was 10.9 as compared with 12.4 in 1949.

**Deaths from Zymotic Diseases.** The Zymotic Death Rate is calculated from the 7 principal zymotic diseases, smallpox, measles, whooping cough, scarlet fever, diphtheria, enteric fever, diarrhoea and enteritis (under 2 years). There was 1 death in this group due to diarrhoea under 2 years.

**Infant Mortality.** There were 7 infant deaths during 1950 (6 males and 1 female), equivalent to a rate of 27.5 per 1,000 Live Births. This rate is lower than that for the country as a whole. Of the 7 deaths, 5 were due to prematurity.

**Tuberculosis Death Rate.** The tuberculosis death rate was .32 per 1,000 of the population this compares favourably with the rate for the country in general. as that for the 148 similar towns in England and Wales is .32. All the deaths were pulmonary.

# **Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.**

Year	England and Wales.	126	148	London Adminis- trative County	<b>Beverley Borough.</b>
		Cty. Bor. and Great Towns incl. London	Smaller Towns (Res. Pop. 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)		
<b>LIVE BIRTHS.</b>					
1950	15.8	17.6	16.7	17.8	16.56*
1949	16.7	18.7	18.0	18.5	18.81*
1948	17.9	20.0	19.2	20.1	19.82
1947	20.5	23.3	22.2	22.7	21.53
1946	19.1	22.2	21.3	21.5	21.49
<b>STILL BIRTHS.</b>					
1950	0.37	0.45	0.38	0.36	0.42*
1949	0.39	0.47	0.40	0.37	0.37*
1948	0.42	0.52	0.43	0.39	0.52
1947	0.50	0.62	0.54	0.49	0.32
1946	0.53	0.67	0.59	0.54	0.26
<b>DEATHS (Crude Death Rate).</b>					
1950	11.6	12.3	11.6	11.8	10.14*
1949	11.7	12.5	11.6	12.2	11.58*
1948	10.8	11.6	10.7	11.6	12.04
1947	12.0	13.0	11.9	12.8	14.50
1946	11.5	12.7	11.7	12.7	12.33

\* Corrected by Comparative Rate.

NOTE : The rates for 1950 are per 1,000 Home Population which includes service personnel.

### Principal Causes of Death.

CAUSES OF DEATH	Male	Female	Total
All causes .....	91	78	169
1. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System .....	4	1	5
2. Other forms of Tuberculosis .....	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic Disease .....	—	1	1
4. Diphtheria .....	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough .....	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections .....	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis .....	—	1	1
8. Measles .....	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases .....	—	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm of Stomach .....	3	2	5
11. Malignant neoplasm of Lungs and Bronchus .....	4	—	4
12. Malignant neoplasm of Breast .....	—	—	—
13. Malignant neoplasm of Uterus .....	—	—	—
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms .....	7	8	15
15. Leukaemia and aleukaemia .....	1	—	1
16. Diabetes .....	—	—	—
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system .....	12	15	27
18. Coronary disease and angina .....	11	13	24
19. Hypertension with heart disease .....	1	4	5
20. Other heart diseases .....	17	17	34
21. Other circulatory diseases .....	—	1	1
22. Influenza .....	1	—	1
23. Pneumonia .....	3	2	5
24. Bronchitis .....	6	2	8
25. Other diseases of respiratory system .....	1	2	3
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum .....	2	—	2
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea .....	1	—	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis .....	—	—	—
29. Hyperplasia of prostate .....	2	—	2
30. Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion .....	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformtions .....	1	—	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases .....	8	8	16
33. Motor vehicle accidents .....	3	—	3
34. All other accidents .....	2	1	3
35. Suicide .....	1	—	1
36. Homicide and operations of war .....	—	—	—

### Age Distribution of Death.

Age Group.	1948	1949	1950
Under 1 year .....	7	13	7
1-2 years ) 1-5 years....	2	1	2
2 to 5 years ) .....	2	—	—
5 to 15 years .....	3	4	3
15 to 25 years .....	7	12	14
25 to 45 years .....	40	35	34
45 to 65 years .....	123	126	109
65 years and over .....			
TOTALS	184	191	169

### Deaths under 1 year.

#### RATES PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS.

Year	England and Wales	126 County Boroughs etc.	148 Smaller Towns etc.	London Administrative County	Beverley Borough
1950	30	34	29	26	27.5
1949	32	37	30	29	42.4
1948	34	39	32	31	23.1
1947	41	47	36	37	39.2
1946	43	45	37	41	37.0

**Table showing Age Distribution of Infantile Deaths.**

CAUSE OF DEATH	Under 1 week	1 to 2 weeks	2 to 3 weeks	3 to 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1 to 3 months	3 to 6 months	6 to 9 months	9 to 12 months	Total under 1 year
Prematurity ... ..	4	1	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	5
Conjenital malformations, birth injury, etc. ....	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia and Bronchitis ....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Gastro-Intestinal Diseases ....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ..	4	2	—	—	6	—	—	1	—	7

## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

**Measles and Whooping Cough.** There was, as I anticipated in my report last year, a marked increase in these two conditions during 1950. The number of cases of measles notified was 242 against 29 in the previous year. The number of cases of whooping cough notified was 73 against 27. The best advice to parents in the absence of any effective method of controlling these two diseases is to protect their children from contacts and to seek the advice of a Doctor.

**Scarlet Fever.** During the year 11 cases of scarlet fever were notified as compared with 34 cases during the previous year.

**Poliomyelitis.** As in 1949 only 2 cases of this disease were notified during the year, one of them being fatal.

Poliomyelitis is an infectious disease caused by a tiny germ called a virus, and can affect people of all ages, but does not always result in paralysis, in fact, more than half of those affected recover without any trouble, and the extent of the disability can be considerably reduced by knowing what to do and what not to do at the outset. As the germs are spread by close contact, the risk of infection is greater where people crowd together, particularly in public vehicles, and places of entertainment such as cinemas.

The risk of infection is also very great when the natural resistance of the body is lowered, and it is wisest to avoid over-tiring the body by strenuous exercises, getting over-tired at work, or by keeping late nights.

All food should be protected from flies, especially food which is to be eaten without further cooking, and of course hands should be carefully washed before eating, and *always* after using the toilet.

During August and September immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough was suspended as poliomyelitis was prevalent. However, this was only a precautionary measure as a result of the discovery of some association between immunisation and the development of paralysis.



It cannot be too strongly emphasised *that immunisation in any form does not cause poliomyelitis*, but if the infection is already present an injection *may* increase the risk of local paralysis.

**Diphtheria.** Not a single case of diphtheria was notified during the year, and this very satisfactory state of affairs can be regarded as the result of immunisation.

The following table shows the comparative figures for diphtheria deaths and cases over the past ten years for England and Wales, and also for the Borough of Beverley.

Year	England and Wales Diphtheria		Beverley Borough Diphtheria	
	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases
1941	2,641	50,797*	—	20
1942	1,827	41,404*	—	8
1943	1,371	34,662*	—	2
1944	934	23,152	1	6
1945	722	18,571	—	4
1946	472	11,967	—	1
1947	244	5,592	—	—
1948	156	3,560	—	—
1949	85†	1,897†	—	1
1950	Not available		—	—

\* Uncorrected figures.

† Provisional.

### Immunisation during 1950.

No. of children immunised during the year was as follows :—

	Primary Injections		Boosting doses
	Under 5	5-15	
(a) against diphtheria only	101	50	266
(b) against diphtheria and whooping cough ....	88	—	7
(c) against whooping cough only	—	—	—

### Vaccination during 1950.

Number of persons vaccinated or revaccinated during the year :—

Age at date of Vaccination.	Under 1	1 to 4	5 to 14	15 or over	Total
Number vaccinated ...	83	3	3	8	97
Number re-vaccinated	—	3	16	17	36

It can be seen from these figures that the number of children under 5 years who were vaccinated against smallpox is considerably less than those immunised against diphtheria. In view of the ever possible risk of an outbreak of smallpox this comparison cannot be viewed with satisfaction.

### Distribution of Infectious Diseases by Age Groups.

DISEASE	Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	5-10 years	10-15 years	15-25 years	25-35 years	35-45 years	45-65 years	65 years and over	Age unknown	TOTAL
Scarlet Fever .....	—	—	—	1	1	6	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	11
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Pneumonia .....	1	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	2	2	6	6	—	20
Dysentery .....	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	3
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic) .....	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Whooping Cough .....	4	9	11	14	8	21	2	—	—	1	—	1	2	73
Measles .....	15	22	49	48	37	69	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	242
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>354</b>

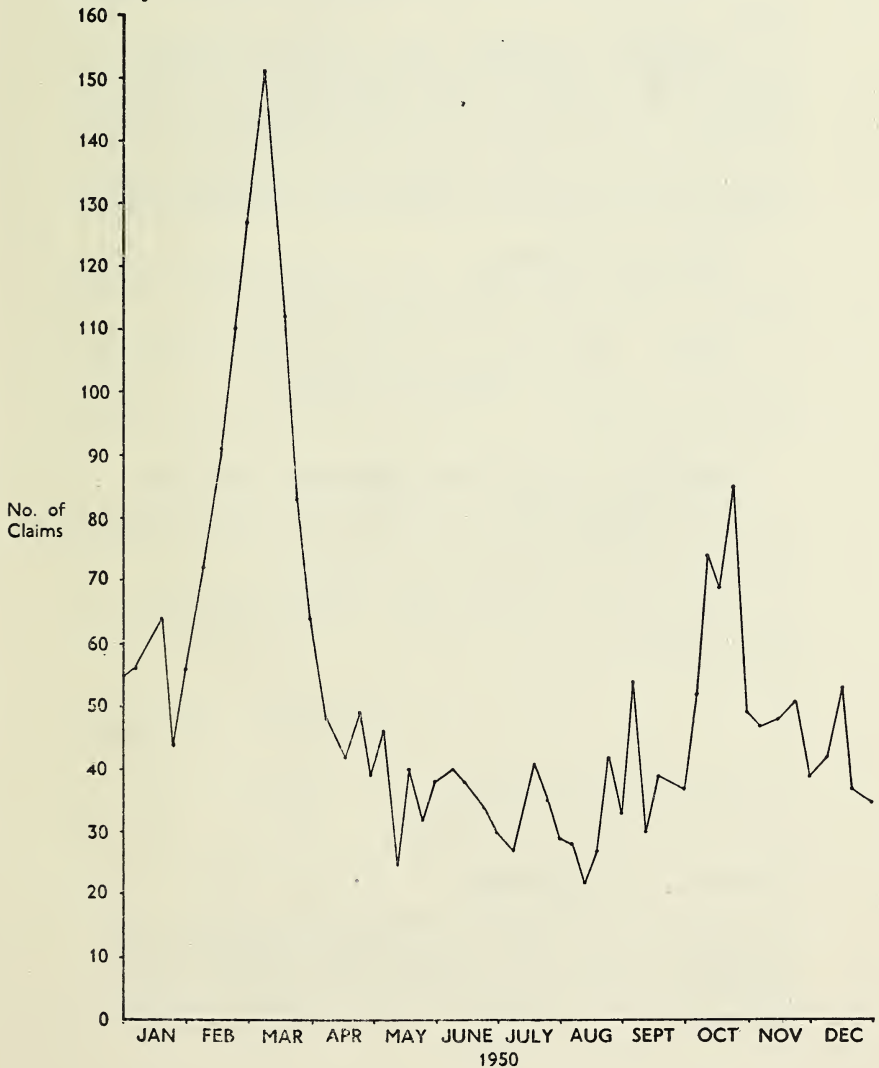
DISEASE	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
Scarlet Fever .....	7	5	8	34	11
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	—	1	1	1	2
Pneumonia .....	11	10	19	21	20
Dysentery .....	—	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas .....	—	2	6	1	3
Poliomyelitis and Poliomyelitis .....	1	4	1	2	2
Whooping Cough .....	76	35	100	27	73
Measles .....	14	211	451	29	242
Diphtheria .....	1	—	—	1	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis .....	—	2	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	3	1	—	—	—
Malaria .....	—	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>354</b>

### Attack Rate per 1,000 Home Population of Commoner Infectious Diseases.

DISEASE	England and Wales	148 Smaller Towns	Beverley Borough
Scarlet Fever	1.50	1.61	0.71
Diphtheria	0.02	0.02	0.00
Pneumonia	0.70	0.61	1.29
Measles	8.39	8.36	15.57
Whooping Cough	3.60	3.15	4.69
Erysipelas	0.17	0.16	0.19



The following graph shows the weekly new claims of sickness benefit at the local office of the Ministry of National Insurance, and gives some indication of the general health of the population in the district. The sharp rises in early March and October are seasonal but they represent a serious loss of man-power to Industry.



## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

**Hospitals.** All Infectious Disease cases are sent to Cottingham.

Maternity cases are sent mostly to the Beverley Westwood Hospital, but some are admitted to Driffield and North Ferriby.

**Laboratory Facilities.** Specimens for pathological examination are sent to the Laboratories at the Hull or Beverley hospitals and to the Public Health Laboratory in Hull.

Bacteriological and biological examinations of milk, water, and ice cream are carried out by the Public Health Laboratory in Hull.

**Ambulance Facilities.** The conveyance of all cases (including infectious disease) is the responsibility of the County Council as the Local Health Authority.

**Clinics.** Tuberculosis.—A Clinic was held each Monday afternoon at the T.B. Dispensary, Beverley.

Venereal Disease.—A clinic was held daily at the Clinic, Mill Street, Hull.

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES.

**Child Welfare Clinic.** A Child Welfare Clinic was held weekly in Lord Roberts Road and was very well attended by the mothers and children of the district.

The number of children who attended the Clinic and the number of attendances made by them during the year were as follows :—

	Under 1 year of age	Between 1 and 5 years of age.
Total number of attendances made .....	3,465	1,147
Total number of children who attended	240	155

### Ante and Post Natal Clinic.

An Ante and Post Natal Clinic was held weekly at which the Medical Officer, Midwives and Health Visitors attended. Specialist facilities were available when necessary, and any such cases were admitted to the Beverley Emergency Hospital.

The number of patients attending the Clinic and the number of attendances made by them during the year were as follows :—

Ante-Natal—new cases	.....	90
Post Natal—new cases	.....	9
Total attendances	.....	347

**Premature Babies.** Approximately two thirds of the total premature babies born during the year were born in hospital, but for those born and cared for at home special assistance and equipment was supplied free where necessary. The County Midwives and Health Visitors paid extra visits in such cases and where home conditions were found to be unsuitable, mother and child were transferred to hospital.

**TUBERCULOSIS.**

During the year 5 new cases of Tuberculosis were notified, all of them being Pulmonary. The following table shows the age and sex distribution of the new cases.

**New Cases notified during 1950.**

Age Group	Pulmonary	
	Male	Female
0- 5 years	—	—
5-15 years	—	—
15-25 years	1	—
25-35 years	1	—
35-45 years	2	—
45-65 years	1	—
65 years and over	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>—</b>

The following table shows the additions to and removals from the Register during the year :—

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Number of cases on Register at the 31st December, 1949	41	23	6	8	78
Cases added to register :—					
(a) Cases notified for the first time	5	—	—	—	5
(b) Other cases brought to notice otherwise than by formal notification	—	1	—	—	1
Removed from the Register on account of death, change of address, etc.	8	3	4	—	15
Number of cases remaining on Register at 31st December, 1950	38	21	2	8	69

## **SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.**

**Water Supply.** The Borough obtains its water from the city of Kingston upon Hull. During the year 97 houses were provided with a piped water supply.

**Housing.** The Borough Council completed 82 new permanent houses during 1950, and 15 were built by private enterprise. This gives a total of 75 temporary houses and 258 permanent houses completed in Beverley since the end of the war, and in addition, 98 have been constructed by private enterprise.

However, the waiting list for Council houses is still a very large one taking into consideration the population of the town, and although no comprehensive survey has been made of the housing situation in the Borough since the end of the war, there are, to my knowledge, a number of badly overcrowded premises in the town. At the end of 1950, there were still 832 on the Council's waiting list of whom 365 were in lodgings, and 467 were tenants of privately owned old cottage property in Beverley and district.

In addition there are still 283 houses whose sanitary conveniences consist only of pail closets, and there are 73 privies. I feel that this proportion in an urbanised area is unnecessarily high and, as already mentioned, that all possible steps should be taken to have the figure reduced in the near future.

**Milk Sampling.** A total of 12 samples of milk were biologically examined from the various retailers in the Borough. The results obtained from these samples were very satisfactory as no tuberculous infection was found in any sample.

During the year six animals were slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order, 1938.

**Ice Cream Sampling.** Out of a total of 42 ice cream samples, 30 proved to be in Grade 1, and only 2 in Grade IV.

## **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.**

---

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough  
of Beverley.*

Mr. Mayor, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting to you the accompanying Report on the work carried out in my department during the year 1950.

No changes occurred in the staff during the year.

Progress has been made in several sections of the work. It is a source of satisfaction to note that more than half the existing privies in the town were abolished during the year, making a total reduction of nearly 100 in the numbers of this primitive form of sanitation during the last two years. At the same time 108 houses have been provided with an internal water supply.

The standard of purity of ice-cream has risen appreciably with 93% of all last year's samples proving to be satisfactory. The general position in this regard may be considered as satisfactory although we have not yet achieved our aim of 100% Grade 1 samples.

For the first time a comprehensive report of the work of the Cleansing and Salvage section is included and I hope that the information given in it will be of interest to the members of the Council.

I would take this opportunity of thanking the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, the Medical Officer of Health and other officials, and the members of my staff for their co-operation and help during the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

T. B. HOOD,  
*Chief Sanitary Inspector.*

June, 1951.

## RECORD OF INSPECTIONS AND WORK DONE.

The total number of visits and inspections for all purposes amounted to 6,204, excluding visits on survey work and sewer treatment within the provisions of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

### TABLE I.

#### SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT.

	Total No. of Inspections.	Nature of Inspections.	
Public Health Act, 1936	2752	Dwelling-houses : First visits	530
		Revisits	928
		Filthy or Verminous Premises :	
		First visits	39
		Revisits	107
		Drainage Works : First visits	305
		Revisits	696
		Infectious Diseases	46
		Common Lodging-houses	30
		Moveable Dwellings	38
		Offensive Trades	—
		Collection of Rags	4
		Smoke observations	29
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2752</b>
Housing Act, 1936	97	Dwelling-houses	66
		Overcrowding	31
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>97</b>
Food and Drugs Act, 1938	780	Slaughter-house (Meat Inspection)	421
		Food Preparing Premises	137
		Ice-cream Premises	73
		Bakehouses	36
		Food Vehicles	6
		Horseflesh	—
		Unfit " Other Food "	83
		Other Slaughter-houses	8
		Suspected Food poisoning	16
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>780</b>
Water Supplies	770	Domestic water supplies and collection of samples for analysis : First visits	194
		Revisits	576
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>770</b>



*Summary of Inspections—continued.*

	Total No. of Inspections.		Nature of Inspections.	
Factories Act, 1937 .....	63	TOTAL VISITS	.....	63
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 .....	1739	TOTAL VISITS	.....	1739
(899 visits on Survey work and work on town's sewers and Walker Beck have not been included)				
Petroleum Regulations	3	Petroleum Installations :		
		TOTAL VISITS	.....	3
TOTAL VISITS.....	6204			

TABLE II.  
NOTICES SERVED.

*Under Public Health and Housing Acts.*

Number of Preliminary Notices served .....	470
Number of Preliminary Notices complied with.....	487
Number of Statutory Notices served .....	69
Number of Statutory Notices complied with :	
(a) By Owners .....	75
(b) By Corporation, in default .....	1
Number of Nuisances, etc., abated without service of Notice .....	92

*Under Food and Drugs Act, 1938.*

Number of Preliminary Notices served .....	5
Number of Preliminary Notices complied with.....	4

The Notices not complied with have been carried forward to the year 1951.



## TABLE III.

## SUMMARY OF WORK DONE.

## (a) GENERAL HOUSING DEFECTS.

<i>Defects found.</i>		<i>Defects remedied.</i>	
Defective roofs .....	19	Roofs repaired .....	23
Defective or no spouting .....	38	Spouting repaired or provided .....	37
Obstructed spouting .....	18	Spouting cleansed .....	7
Defective chimneys and flues .....	5	Chimneys and flues repaired .....	3
Defective joints and perished brickwork .....	16	Joints and perished brickwork repaired .....	14
Dampness .....	10	Dampness remedied .....	3
Defective ceiling plaster .....	13	Ceiling plaster repaired .....	23
Defective wall plaster .....	18	Wall plaster repaired .....	11
Defective floors .....	7	Floors repaired .....	10
Insufficient sub-floor ventilation .....	1	Sub-floor ventilation provided .....	2
Defective doors, door frames and fasteners .....	6	Doors, door frames and fasteners repaired .....	9
Defective firegrates or fireplaces .....	8	Firegrates or fireplaces repaired .....	7
Defective fireranges .....	10	Fireranges repaired .....	14
Defective window frames, heads and glazing .....	11	Window frames, heads and glazing repaired .....	8
Defective sash cords .....	9	Sash cords renewed .....	6
Defective staircases and handrails .....	1	Staircases and handrails repaired or refixed .....	1
Lack of food store .....	—	Foodstore provided .....	—
No ventilation to foodstore .....	—	Ventilation to foodstore provided .....	1
Lack of washing facilities .....	—	Washing facilities provided .....	—
Inadequate water supply .....	85	Adequate water supply provided .....	121
Defective taps, service pipes and cisterns .....	—	Taps, service pipes and cisterns repaired .....	—
Defective paving of yards and common passages .....	35	Paving of yards and common passages repaired .....	35
Inadequate accommodation for storage of refuse .....	197	Proper accommodation for storage of refuse provided .....	191
Insufficient natural lighting .....	1	Sufficient natural lighting provided .....	—
Insufficient ventilation to bedrooms .....	—	Sufficient ventilation provided to bedrooms .....	1
Total .....	508	Total .....	527

(b) HOUSE DRAINS AND DEFECTS OF SANITARY  
ACCOMMODATION.

Insufficient or inadequate sanitary accommodation ....	108	Sufficient or adequate sanitary accommodation provided.....	105
Dilapidated W.C. structures	3	W.C. structures repaired .....	3
Broken W.C. basins and joints	6	W.C. basins and joints renewed or replaced.....	6
Broken W.C. seats .....	1	W.C. seats repaired .....	1
Defective Pails .....	21	Pails renewed .....	25
Defective flushing cisterns ....	6	Flushing cisterns repaired ....	7
Burst service pipes .....	—	Service pipes repaired .....	—
Defective soil pipes .....	1	Soil pipes repaired.....	1
Obstructed drains .....	26	Drains cleared .....	27
Defective drains and drainage systems .....	11	Drains repaired and drainage systems improved.....	10
Defective inspection chambers and/or covers .....	1	Inspection chambers and/or covers repaired .....	1
Absence of sinks and/or drainage .....	67	Sinks and/or drainage provided .....	106
Defective sinks and lavatory basins .....	2	Sinks and lavatory basins renewed .....	2
Defective waste pipes .....	6	Waste pipes repaired.....	7
Total	<u>259</u>	Total	<u>301</u>

(c) NUISANCES.

Accumulations .....	10	Accumulations removed .....	9
Common passages in insanitary condition .....	2	Common passages cleansed ....	2
Smoke and grit nuisance .....	1	Smoke and grit nuisance remedied .....	1
Boiling of pig swill .....	1	Boiling of pig swill discontinued .....	1
Infestations of furniture .....	2	Infestations dealt with.....	2
Nuisance from polluted water-course .....	1	Nuisance from water course abated .....	1
Total	<u>17</u>	Total	<u>16</u>

## HOUSING.

The maintenance of dwelling-houses in a habitable condition has continued to be one of the major tasks of the department, and one of the most difficult. Delays in the execution of work under notice increased appreciably during the year due in some measure to the natural reluctance on the part of landlords to face heavy repair bills, but due mainly to material and labour difficulties. It will be noted that formal procedure had to be resorted to in many more instances than was the case last year and this fact is in itself a commentary on the state of things existing to-day regarding the maintenance of house property.

The number of applicants for Council houses at the end of the year was 832, a decrease of 7 on last year's figure.

The total number of houses erected during the year was :—

(1) By the local authority .....	82
(2) By private enterprise .....	15

The number of houses in course of erection at the end of the year was :—

(1) By the local authority .....	100
(2) By private enterprise .....	3

All these houses were of the permanent type.

This brings the total number of houses erected between the end of the war and the end of 1950 to :—

(1) By the local authority .....	75 temporary and 258 permanent
(2) By private enterprise .....	98 permanent

## PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

### WATER SUPPLY.

40 samples of town's water were taken for bacteriological examination during the year, the results of which were as follows :—

Number examined .....	40
Number satisfactory .....	40

In addition, 43 samples of water were examined for the presence of free chlorine, and free chlorine was present in every sample.

One sample was taken for the purpose of chemical analysis. The sample proved to be satisfactory and the following is the Analyst's report upon it.

#### CHEMICAL AND PHYSICAL EXAMINATION.

Suspended Matter :	Slight trace.
Appearance in 2ft. column :	Clear and Colourless
Taste :	Normal.
Odour :	None.
Reaction, pH :	7.3
	Parts per Million.
Chlorides, expressed as chlorine	28
Nitrites	None
Poisonous Metals, (Lead, etc.)	None
Hardness, Total	275
Oxygen absorbed at 80°F. (4 hours)	0.250
Free Ammonia	0.000
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.004
Free Chlorine	None

Four samples of water were taken from three private pumps. One of these was found to be unsatisfactory and the twelve houses which used the water from the pump were supplied with town's water.

During the year, 108 houses were provided with an internal water supply under the Water Act, 1945.

#### SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

76 privies were converted (64 to water closets and 12 to pails) and 40 pail closets were converted to water-closets during the year. At the end of the year, of the 4,431 occupied houses in the town, 283 (6.4%) were provided with pail closets and 73 (1.6%) still had privies.

The abolition of half of the privies and all the remaining dry middens in the town is, in my opinion, one of the most satisfactory features of the whole of my report.

#### STORAGE OF DOMESTIC REFUSE.

Consideration was given during the year to the operation of a Municipal Dustbin Scheme whereby the local authority would be responsible for the renewal of defective dustbins, the scheme being financed either by a general rate charge or by the levying of a fixed annual charge upon those properties covered by the scheme.

The Council finally decided against such a scheme and in order to properly discharge our functions under the Act, questionnaires are now sent to owners and occupiers of all premises requiring a new dustbin and consideration is given to each individual case by the Refuse Collection Sub-Committee.

During the year an owner successfully appealed to the local Magistrate's Court against a notice of the local authority requiring him to renew a defective dustbin at one of his properties, the Magistrates finding that he was not responsible for its renewal.

### COLLECTION OF TRADE REFUSE.

The charges for the removal of trade refuse from business premises were reviewed during the year and the following charges for a weekly collection are now in operation :—

5/- per quarter for weekly collections from premises producing 1 to 3 bins of trade refuse in excess of 1 bin per week.

8/- per quarter for weekly collections from premises producing 4 to 6 bins of trade refuse in excess of 1 bin per week.

10/- per quarter for weekly collections from premises producing more than 6 bins in excess of 1 bin per week.

At the end of the year chargeable trade refuse was being collected from 32 premises in the town.

Individual loads of trade and other refuse are now charged for on a time basis at the following rates :—

Vehicle and driver	.....	9/- per hour.
Vehicle, driver and one man	.....	12/- per hour.
Vehicle, driver and two men	.....	15/- per hour.

### SWIMMING BATHS.

There are no privately owned swimming baths in Beverley. The Council own one swimming bath, which is not very satisfactory. There is no continuous treatment provided for the water, although chloride of lime is added by hand as required, and the bath is emptied and filled three times a week.

Three samples of water were taken from the swimming bath for bacteriological examination and all were found to be satisfactory.

Five samples have been taken from the Barmston Drain which continued to be used for bathing purposes by a large number of children. All the samples proved to be very heavily polluted with coliform bacilli, rendering it totally unsuitable for bathing. In spite of warning notices tradition proved to be too strong to break, however, and bathing continues on quite a large scale.

### MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

There are seven licences in force in Beverley, one a licence for the use of a site by moveable dwellings and the other six authorising the occupation of moveable dwellings.

In the case of the one site licence, there were approximately ten caravans in occupation at the end of the year. Conditions are attached to the licence limiting the number of caravans and requiring the dwellings to be adequately spaced. The number of dwellings on this site varies throughout the year, and is largely occupied by persons in the Travelling Show business.

### COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

The two registered Common Lodging-houses in the Borough were visited thirty times last year. The condition of both of them continues to be fairly satisfactory.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND DISINFECTIONS.

A total of 46 visits were made in connection with infectious disease and the disinfection of premises following infectious and other diseases. 13 premises were dealt with.

### FILTHY OR VERMINOUS PREMISES.

A total of 146 visits were paid to 39 filthy or verminous premises.

23 Council and 16 non-Council houses were disinfested, the method used being DDT spray or fumigation.

The furniture of all prospective tenants of council houses is inspected by the Housing Manager and where necessary, or as a precautionary measure, works of disinfection are carried out. During the year, 23 lots of such furniture were disinfested.

The practice of issuing insect powder to tenants of Council houses has been continued and undoubtedly makes a contribution towards the control of pests in these houses.

### PAVING OF COMMON PASSAGES.

During the year the Corporation carried out the resurfacing of the footpath serving Waltham Terrace and the rear of certain houses in Norwood and Mill Lane. The cost was borne by the 19 owners of the houses served by the footpath.



**FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.****MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.**

421 visits were made to the Ministry of Food's Slaughter-house and the carcasses and organs of 1,202 beasts, 391 calves, 3,846 sheep and 248 pigs have been examined.

TABLE IV.

## SUMMARY OF MEAT INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excl. Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.	Total weight in lbs.
Number killed and inspected	998	204	391	3846	248	—
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS.						
Whole carcase condemned	4	7	26	38	17	13,402
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	443	81	16	294	86	11,961
Percentage of number in- spected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	44.8	43.1	10.74	8.63	41.53	—
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.						
Whole carcase condemned	12	9	1	—	4	14,580
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	155	81	—	—	32	9,540
Percentage of number in- spected affected with tuber- culosis	16.7	44.1	0 25	—	14 5	—

The Table below gives the totals of organs condemned :

	Beasts	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Heads and tongues .....	183	30	70	42
Livers .....	410	38	277	67
Lungs .....	283	37	195	77
Kidneys .....	66	60	96	44
Udders ....	54	—	—	—
Hearts .....	49	37	195	76
Spleens .....	41	37	173	27
Stomachs .....	41	30	53	21
Intestines .....	50	30	58	47

Included in the above figures are six cows which were slaughtered and inspected under the Tuberculosis Order, 1938. Of these, three were totally condemned for generalised tuberculosis, and parts of the remainder were condemned for localised tuberculosis.

The percentage of cows found to be affected with tuberculosis is considerably higher than has been the case in recent years, but the smallness of the numbers of animals involved makes it unwise to attempt to draw any general conclusions from our figures.

This year's figures for the numbers of beasts killed show an improvement of 14% on last year's figures.

During the year the Ministry of Food acceded to our request for a separate room at the Slaughterhouse for the storage of condemned meat and offal until its collection and a great improvement in hygienic conditions at the slaughterhouse was effected thereby.

Considerable improvement in the delivery of meat to retail butchers' shops was also effected during the year by the provision by the carting agent of two specially designed metal lined covered vans for this purpose.



TABLE V.

## OTHER FOOD INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	lbs.
Butter .....	27
Cheese .....	63
Coffee .....	2
Fish (tinned) .....	11
Flour .....	48
Fruit .....	18
„ (tinned) .....	188
„ Juice .....	3
Jam .....	73
Lemon Cheese.....	3
Marmalade .....	12
Mayonnaise .....	18
Meat (tinned) .....	309
„ (uncooked) .....	529
Mincemeat .....	3
Milk, (tinned, evaporated) .....	187
Pickles .....	7
Sausages .....	39
Salad Cream .....	5
Soup (tinned) .....	38
Sweets .....	7
Tomatoes .....	195
Vegetables (tinned) .....	227
Other small amounts ....	9
	<hr/>
	2,021 lbs.
	<hr/>

## CLEANLINESS IN HANDLING OF FOOD.

The importance of cleanliness in the handling of food continued to be stressed to all those engaged in the food trade. A Clean Food lecture was held in the Public Library during the year when two very good films were shown and a lecture was given by the Director of the Public Health Laboratory in Hull. In spite of written invitations, the evening was, unfortunately, not well supported by the food traders of the town.

During the year bye-laws relating to the clean handling of food were put into operation in the town.

## ICE-CREAM.

Forty-two samples of ice-cream were submitted for analysis and the results, which showed a marked improvement on last year's results, were as follows :—

30 samples were placed in Provisional Grade 1

9	„	„	„	„	„	„	2
1	„	„	„	„	„	„	3
2	„	„	„	„	„	„	4

Grades 1 and 2, which are regarded as satisfactory, this year accounted for 93% of the samples, leaving only 7% unsatisfactory. The samples were taken from 12 sources of supply and of these, 10 (including both the local manufacturing firms) were satisfactory throughout the whole season.

The three samples which proved to be unsatisfactory were all taken from two itinerant vendors whose ice-cream was produced outside the borough. Following representations to the firms concerned regarding washing facilities for the vendors, means of sterilisation of equipment, etc., the vendors were not again seen operating in the Borough.

## MILK SAMPLING.

At the request of the County Council, and acting on their behalf, we took samples of milk from producers in the town for biological examination. 12 such samples were taken from 11 different producers and no evidence of tuberculosis was found in any of the samples.

**MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) REGULATIONS,  
1949.**

The number of licences issued was as follows :—

- 3 supplementary licences for the sale of pasteurised milk.
- 3 supplementary licences for the sale of sterilised milk.
- 2 dealers' licences for the sale of tuberculin tested milk.
- 9 dealers' licences for the sale of pasteurised milk.
- 2 dealers' licences for the sale of sterilised milk.

## **PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.**

The usual testing and treatment of the town's sewers and the Walker Beck were again carried out during the year. The estimated kill on this occasion amounted to 350 rats which is slightly more than the estimated kill for the same treatment last year. Whilst certain areas of the town show up time after time as being infested, there are other areas where rats appear intermittently so that each year we are able to report that certain areas previously infested are now clear while certain new areas of infestation have appeared. In the following-up treatment of the sewers carried out later in the year, a further 270 rats were estimated to have been killed but the number of areas of infestation had been materially reduced by our previous main treatment.

The Refuse Tip gave a bit of trouble during the year and three treatments were carried out on it. The method used was to put bait, followed by poison, into the rat holes and then seal up the holes. By this means it is not possible to arrive at an accurate estimation of the kill, as most of the rats die in the holes and few bodies are found.

Among other treatments carried out were 238 at private dwelling-houses and 12 at business premises. The estimated kill in these treatments amounted to 2,360.

The number of visits made to dwelling-houses and business premises for purposes of treatment amounted to 1,739 but this takes no account of the large amount of time which had to be spent on survey work and, of course, in the treatment of the sewers and the Walker Beck.

During the four years which the Rodent Operative has been on this job he estimates that he has killed 11,500 rats. This figure is somewhat staggering until one realises that it is, theoretically at least, possible for one pair of rats to give rise to 600 rats in twelve months. It is obviously true that only by waging a continuous war against the rat population can we hope to keep their numbers within reasonable limits.

**FACTORIES ACT, 1937.**

Sixty-three visits were made to factories in respect of those items for the supervision of which the Local Authority is responsible. In two instances defects were found and in five instances (some of which had been left over from last year) defects were remedied.

TABLE VI.

Premises.	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	No. of Written Notices.	No. of Occupiers Prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by local authorities	7	5	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the local authority	70	58	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding out-workers' premises) .. .. .	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—
Total	77	63	—	—
	—	—	—	—

Number of cases in which defects were found :—

Particulars.	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. In-spector.	Referred by H.M. In-spector.	No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
Want of cleanliness					
Overcrowding					
Unreasonable temperature					
Inadequate ventilation					
Ineffective drainage of floors					
Sanitary conveniences :—					
(a) insufficient					
(b) unsuitable or defective	2	4	—	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	1	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	2	5	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—

## **PETROLEUM ACTS AND ORDERS.**

At the end of the year 29 premises were licensed to store petroleum spirit and one to store carbide of calcium.

Three visits were paid to these premises.

## **REFUSE COLLECTION AND SALVAGE.**

All the figures in this section of my report are for the financial year 1950-51.

The staff remained at one foreman, three driver-loaders, seven loaders (one of whom is capable of acting as relief-driver), two disposal men and one full-time salvage man. We had more than our share of sickness during the winter months and additional work was thrown upon the remaining staff thereby. In spite of this, the weekly collection of house and trade refuse was maintained, with more frequent collections from certain special premises. The weight of refuse collected increased by some 400 tons on last year's figures and necessitated 233 extra loads being carried.

No major replacements became necessary to the three refuse collection vehicles and trailers during the year but, because of the arduous conditions under which the vehicles operate, day to day maintenance had to be rigorously attended to to maintain efficient service.

It was unfortunately not possible to proceed further with the provision of the workshop at the depot during the year, nor with the installation of electricity into the garages. The ablution facilities provided at the depot continue to function very well and are used regularly by the staff.

The arrangement with the Surveyor's department whereby street orderlies and boxes are emptied by the refuse collection vehicles continues to work satisfactorily.

Waste paper collections show an increase of 22 tons over last year's figures. No major drives or publicity were undertaken but regular and reliable collections, with slogan posters on the waste paper trailers and occasional newspaper publicity of one sort or another, seemed to be effective in bringing about a satisfactory result. During the year waste paper regained its former importance as a raw material and our Paper Merchants gave us prices higher than ever before.

Our figures for textile collections, never very high, suffered from the activities of street collectors.

The following figures summarise the year's work :—

### REVENUE ACCOUNT.

			Balance		Equiv. Rate in £ (1d. Rate
	Income	Expenditure	Credit	Debit	= £325).
Collection	324	X1 4487	—	4163	12.8d.
Disposal	—	X2 619	—	619	1.9d
Salvage	1893	763	1130	—	3.5d Cr.
Total	£2217	£5869	£1130	£4782	11.2d

XI Includes £517 for repayment and loan charges on vehicles.

X2 Includes £38 for repayment and loan charges on tip land.

NET COST OF SERVICE ... £3652.

### UNIT COSTS.

	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
	Collection	Disposal (including Salvage)	Total Cost (including Salvage) (a) and (b)	Disposal (excluding Salvage)	Total Cost (excluding Salvage) (a) and (d)
Cost per ton	14/8	1/10 (Credit)	12/10	2/2	16/10
Cost per 1000 population	£268	£33 (Credit)	£235	£40	£308
Cost per premise from which refuse collected	16/7	2/- (Credit)	14/7	2/6	19/1

### REFUSE YIELD.

Total weight of refuse collected	.....	.....	5679 tons
Annual yield of refuse per head of population			7.3 cwts.
Annual yield of refuse per premise	.....		22.6 cwts.
Total number of loads of refuse collected			2602
Average weight of refuse per load	.....		2.18 tons.

Number of Dustbins, etc, emptied not less frequently than once per week as at 31st December, 1950.

Dustbins	.....	.....	.....	4848
Pail Closets	.....	.....	.....	283
Privies	.....	.....	.....	73
Chemical Closets	.....	.....	.....	13
Dry Middens	.....	.....	.....	Nil

## DETAILS OF PLANT.

Total number of miles run by vehicles .....	11,230
Average length of haul per load .....	4.31 miles
Average distance travelled by each vehicle per working day .....	13.4 miles.

## SICKNESS AND ACCIDENT RATES.

Number of man/days lost through sickness .....	224½
Sickness Rate .....	6%
Number of man/days lost through accidents .....	33
Accident Rate .....	0.9%

## SALVAGE FIGURES.

				<i>Tonnage</i>	<i>Gross Receipts in £</i>
Paper .....	.....	.....	.....	226	1846
Textiles .....	.....	.....	.....	1¼	43
Metal .....	.....	.....	.....	1¼	4
Total .....				Tons 229	£1893
Grand Total, 1939-1951				Tons 2306	£14528

I would like to pay tribute to the men of the Cleansing Department who have carried out a task which can never be pleasant under conditions which were particularly difficult during the winter of this year. For them increased salvage collections merely mean more work and they and their foreman are to be commended for the enthusiasm they have shown in our town's salvage effort.











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